REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted in reply to Third Office Action. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and further examination of the patent application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111.

Claims 4, 5, 19, 22, 36, 37, 45, and 46 have been cancelled without prejudice and claims 1, 2, 6, 8, 11, 17, 18, 20, 23-26, 29, 35, 38, 40, 41, 44, 47, 49, and 50 have been amended as shown above. Upon entry of the foregoing Amendment claims 1-3, 6-18, 20, 21, 23-35, 38-44, and 47-52 are pending in the application. The amendments are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested. Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all outstanding rejections.

Summary of Third Office Action

Claims 1-4, 7-10, 17-18, 20-22, 25-28, 35-37, 40-44, 46 and 49-52 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wingard U.S. Patent 6,295,318 B1.

Claims 5-6, 11-16, 19, 23-24, 29-34, 38-39, 45, 47, and 48 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Remarks regarding §103(a) rejection

The applicant respectfully traverses all claim rejections. However, in order to expedite allowance of the application, the claims are currently amended to include limitations deemed allowable by the Action. Other claims have been cancelled or left in their original form as appropriate. The applicant specifically reserves the right to seek additional claims in a future filed continuation application.

Conclusion

From the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that all of the stated grounds of rejection and objections have been properly traversed, accommodated or rendered

moot. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the application is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests such action.

If the Examiner believes, for any reasons, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Applicant believes there are no additional fees associated with this reply other than those indicated. However, if this is incorrect, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees which may be required for this paper to Deposit Account No. 22-0261.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 28, 2004

Robert S. Babayi

Registration No. 33,471

VENABLE

P.O. Box 34385

Washington, D.C. 20043-9998

Telephone:

(202) 962-4800

Telefax:

(202) 962-8300